The Christmas Concert was very much a success. I am so proud of all of the students and how they presented their items and how they presented themselves with excellent behaviour and positive attitudes. The school has been bombarded with positive comments that extend across all aspects of the night. The food was delicious, the performances were spectacularly entertaining, the dancing was enthusiastic and the audience attendance was commendable. I would like to thank those families that brought food to share and the parents and community members that stayed after dinner and helped to clean up tables, wash up cutlery and plates, and pack up and sweep the hall. Many hands certainly made light work.

The Semester Two Student Reports were sent home to families yesterday. Please take the time to read through your child/ren/’s report. If you would like to discuss any comments further, please discuss this with your classroom teacher, or the teacher for the specific Key Learning Area.

Next year, we will have four new kindergarten students commencing on Friday, 29 January. On Thursday, 28 January, the kindergarten students will each complete a Best Start Assessment, but the kindergarten students will only attend school for the allocated assessment time, not for a normal school day. Parents of the kindergarten students are able to stay at school while the assessment is conducted as it should only take about 30 minutes.

Our anticipated enrolment for 2016 is 44. This means that the structure of two classrooms will continue. At this stage the two classes will remain as a K/1/2 and a 3/4/5/6. The 3/6 class will be split in two for some lessons on most days each week with Mrs Shipard teaching stage two content, and the stage three content being taught by me across many of the Key Learning Areas. This is very similar to what Mrs Eleftheriou was doing this semester to support the 3/6 class. This allows class/stage group sizes to be smaller with approximately 12 students in K/1/2, 16 students in 3/4 and 16 students in years 5/6.

This is the final newsletter for 2015. I am really enjoying my role as Principal of the amazing little school with a big heart. I would like to once again thank the staff, students and parents for their support since I commenced at the school back in April. I wish our year 6 students the very best and I know that you all have bright futures ahead of you.

Merry Christmas to all, have a safe holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone in 2016.

Stephen Manser
Principal
From Mrs Cantrell:

The beginning of 2016 will be the commencement of my fifth year at The Channon Public School, which seems hard to believe. My association with this school goes back more than twenty years to when my own children were students here and I started casual teaching here as well. I feel very lucky and privileged to be able to teach the children at The Channon Public School and am very proud of all our students. At the Christmas concert I was particularly struck by the calm grace and beauty of our Year 6 girls and the handsome charm of our Year 6 boys. All our children looked so loved and happy, a great reflection of the passionate dedication of their parents and families. It’s been another wonderful year full of fun and learning and I wish all our treasured families a safe and joyful Christmas!

Thankyou

We would like to thank all of our parent volunteers who have helped in the classrooms with reading, maths and singing, art and sculpture. Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated by the staff and children of The Channon School. Thank you to our P&C for all the wonderful work that you have done raising money for school and for organising The Channon Market and Teams day which is a huge task.

Farewell

This year we farewell our Year 6 class of 2015, Miriam, Ayla-Mae, Talia, Luke, Raphael, Mitchell and Izaiah. We wish them all the best on their journey into high school. We are very proud of their achievements and are sure that they will be wonderful ambassadors for our school. We are also very proud that all applicants for the extension class at Richmond River HS were successful.

We also say goodbye to the McHardy family. Thankyou for contribution to our school and we wish you all the best in the future.

We would like to wish all of our students and their families a very happy Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.

We look forward to seeing you all again in the New Year!
Leader’s Report

This week has been an enjoyable week for everyone I am sure! It has been a nice finish to the year being able to swim every day. The senior class went down to the junction to do water testing on Wednesday and they found some pretty cool bugs! The senior class also got to see dragonfly larvae eating a small fish!

We all really enjoyed the Christmas concert! Thanks to the parents who came to watch us and thanks again to the parents who helped clean up!

All the students are looking forward to presenting their performance at the Talent Quest on Friday!

We hope all the students have a wonderful summer holiday and all the Year 6 students have a great graduation. Make sure that your final three days of school this year are awesome!

Miriam

Kindergarten’s Final Orientation Day

The final orientation to kindergarten will be held next Monday, 14 December, 2015. This will run from 9.00am until 1pm, rather than the whole day as the students will be setting up for the year 6 formal dinner after lunch. We will also be asking parents to select a time for their kindergarten child to complete their Best Start Assessment. A letter including what you will need to bring in for Kinder 2016 and your Best Start Time will be sent home with your child at the end of the day. The Best Start Assessments will be conducted on Thursday, 28 January, 2016. The kindergarten students will commence their first official day of school on Friday, 29 January, 2016.
Special Swimming Scheme

This week the students completed their ten intensive swimming scheme lessons. The groups worked really well together and with a lot of instructors and school teachers, the group sizes were very manageable. All students made progress, but especially the non-swimmers or students who at the beginning of the program may have been only able to swim 10 metres. I think that running two sessions per day really worked well. The only change we will look at for next year is to run the program earlier in term 4, 2016, and earlier in the day, such as a 10:30am start instead of the current 11:30am start. This will hopefully minimise the risk of sunburn and also not clash with so many things that normally occur at the end of the year such as the Christmas concert and school assessments. If you have any further suggestions or feedback about the swim scheme program, please let me know.

Year 6 Dinner

The Year 6 dinner will be held next Monday, 14 December, 2015, commencing at 6pm. This is a very special evening for graduating class of 2015. The dinner will be held under the COLA. Year 5 families will be catering for the night but we encourage Year 6 families to bring a plate along as well.

Library

As we near the end of term can parents please ensure that children return their Library books by next Wednesday, 16 December 2015. Thankyou.
**Year 6 Surf School**

On Monday, 14 December, the Year 6 students will participate in the Year 6 Surf Day at Byron Bay. This should be a wonderful day for our Year 6 students to finish off the year. The cost is $25.00 per student. Transport is by private car.

Parents are to meet Mr Manser on the right hand side of the Surf Club at 10.30am. The Surf School will run from after 10.30am until 2.00pm.

All students must bring and wear board shorts on the day. They will need to wear swimmers, rash shirt and sunscreen. The Surf School will have rash shirts for students on the day and may ask them to wear them instead of their own. They will need to bring recess, lunch and drinks.
Community Announcements

The Channon Village Christmas Carols and Bush-dance by

Sunset - Friday 11th December at The Channon Tavern from 5:30pm

Join ‘The Ragged Blossoms’ and your local community at The Channon Butter-Factory Tavern from 5:30pm Friday 11th December for an evening to celebrate the festive season with friends, carol-singing and bush-dancing. Relax on a rug on the grass, sing with gusto or dance the night away. Santa will be there just after local kids perform a well-rehearsed set of contemporary and traditional Christmas carols.

See you there!

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The Channon
Preschool Fundraising Gig

The Ruff Scales
LOCAL ROCK BAND

SAT 12TH DEC
@ THE CHANNON HALL
6.30PM

* FOOD & BAR *

$10 ENTRY

Come along, share in the festive fun, and support your local preschool!

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DUNGOON SPORTS CLUB PRESENTS the annual FREE Christmas pantomime:

'Ve're Hansel and Gretel'

FREE PANTOMIME
Saturday 12th Dec.

Entertainment for the whole family.
Performance starts at 5.30pm.

Surprise guest and gift for each child following pantomime.

Why not steal a peaceful moment relaxing on our beautiful deck while your kids play?

Sprinkler fun and finger-puppet making starts from 5pm.

Family friendly, all weather venue. All welcome. Food available.